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(54) **SYSTEMS, METHODS AND
COMPUTER-PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR
ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION**

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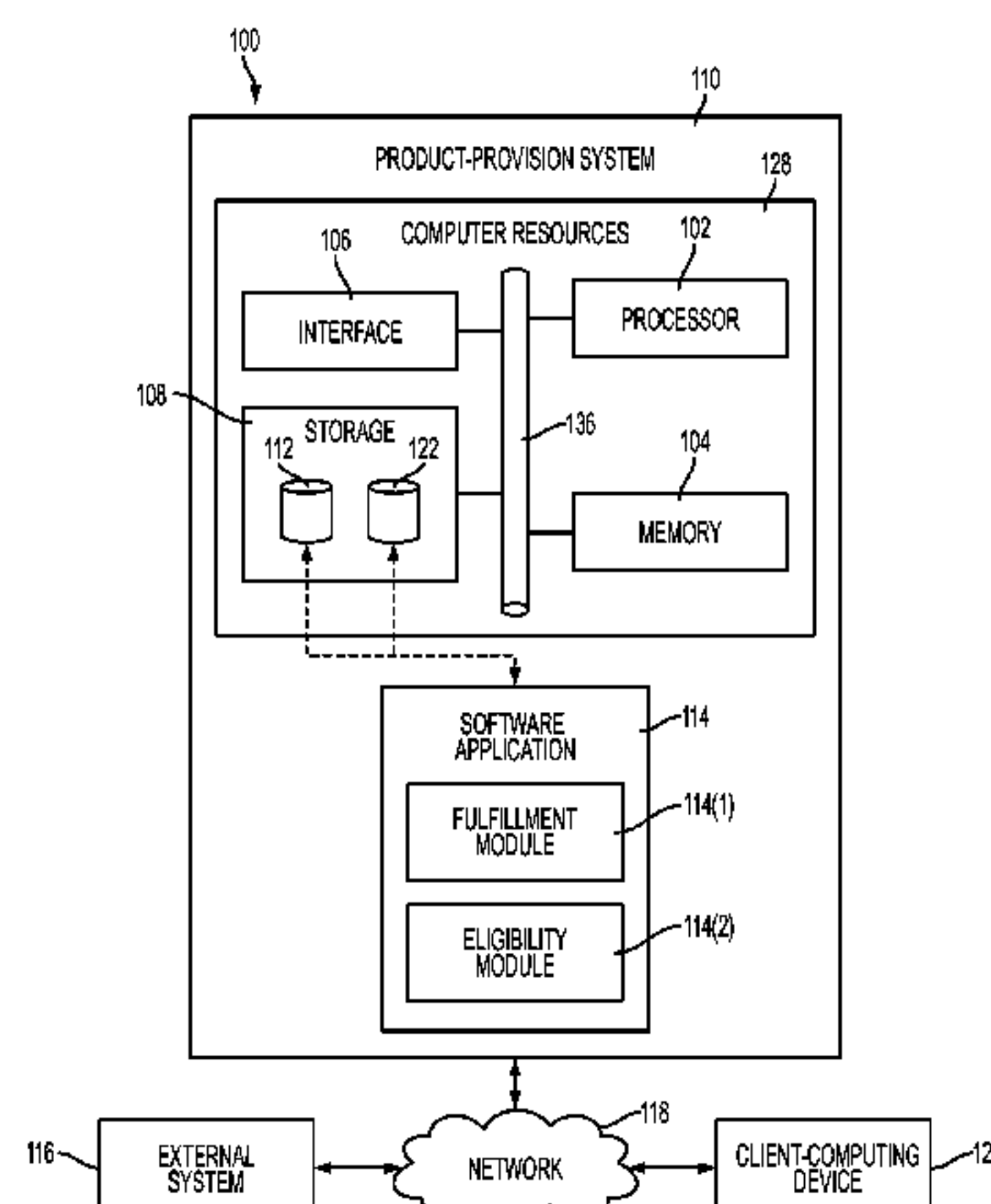
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(57)

ABSTRACT

In one embodiment, a method includes receiving, from a
requestor, a request for an on-demand product. The method
further includes determining an eligibility token format
applicable to the request, wherein the eligibility token form-
at comprises a plurality of partial segments of identifying
information. The method also includes prompting the
requestor to provide a plurality of partial-segment values
corresponding to the plurality of partial segments. In addi-
tion, the method includes receiving the plurality of partial-
segment values in response to the prompting. Moreover, the
method includes generating an eligibility token from the
plurality of partial-segment values. The method also
includes determining the requestor's eligibility for the on-
demand product based, at least in part, on a lookup of the
eligibility token in an eligibility token repository. The eli-
gibility token repository includes a plurality of eligibility
tokens of the eligibility token format.

20 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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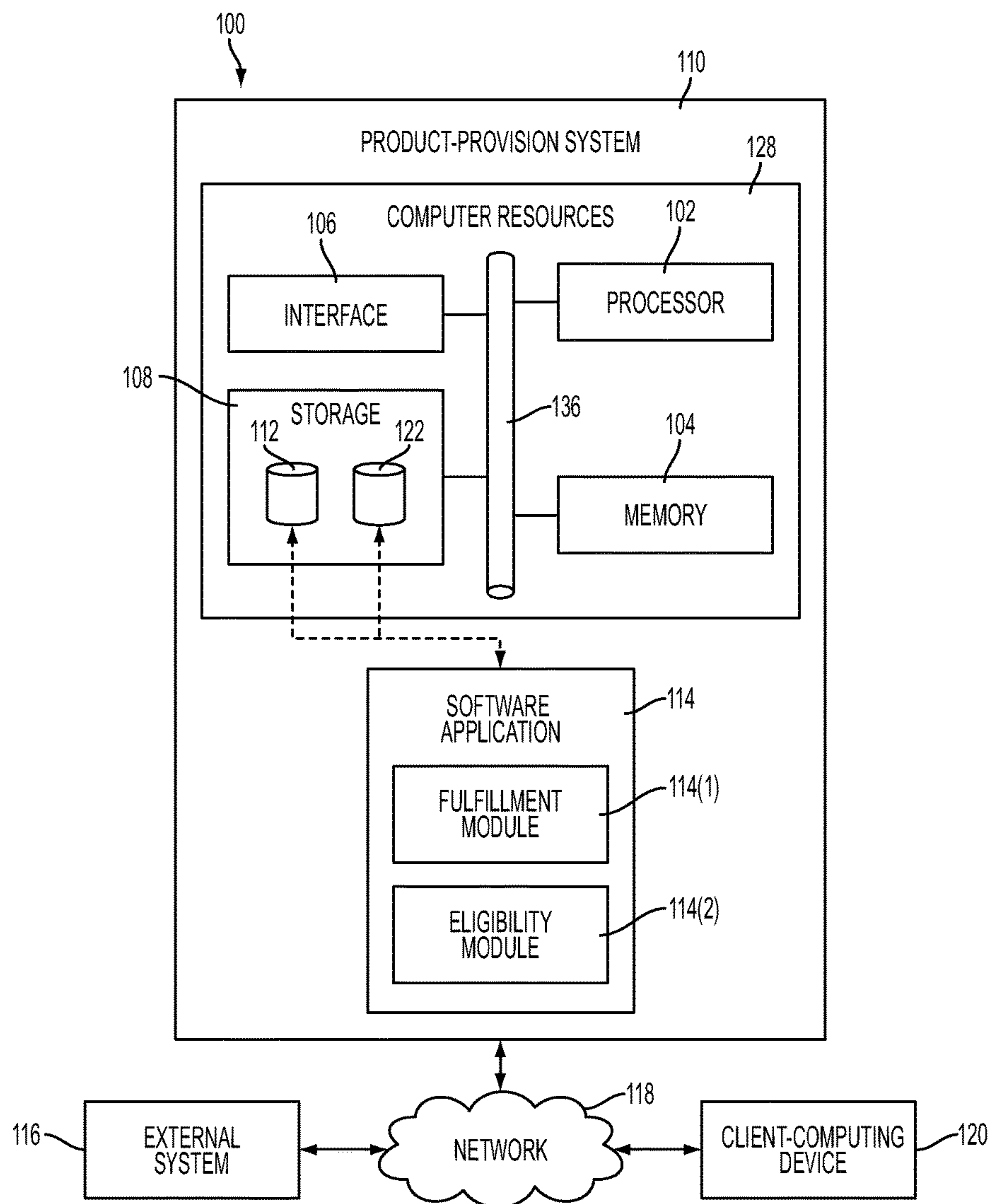


FIG. 1

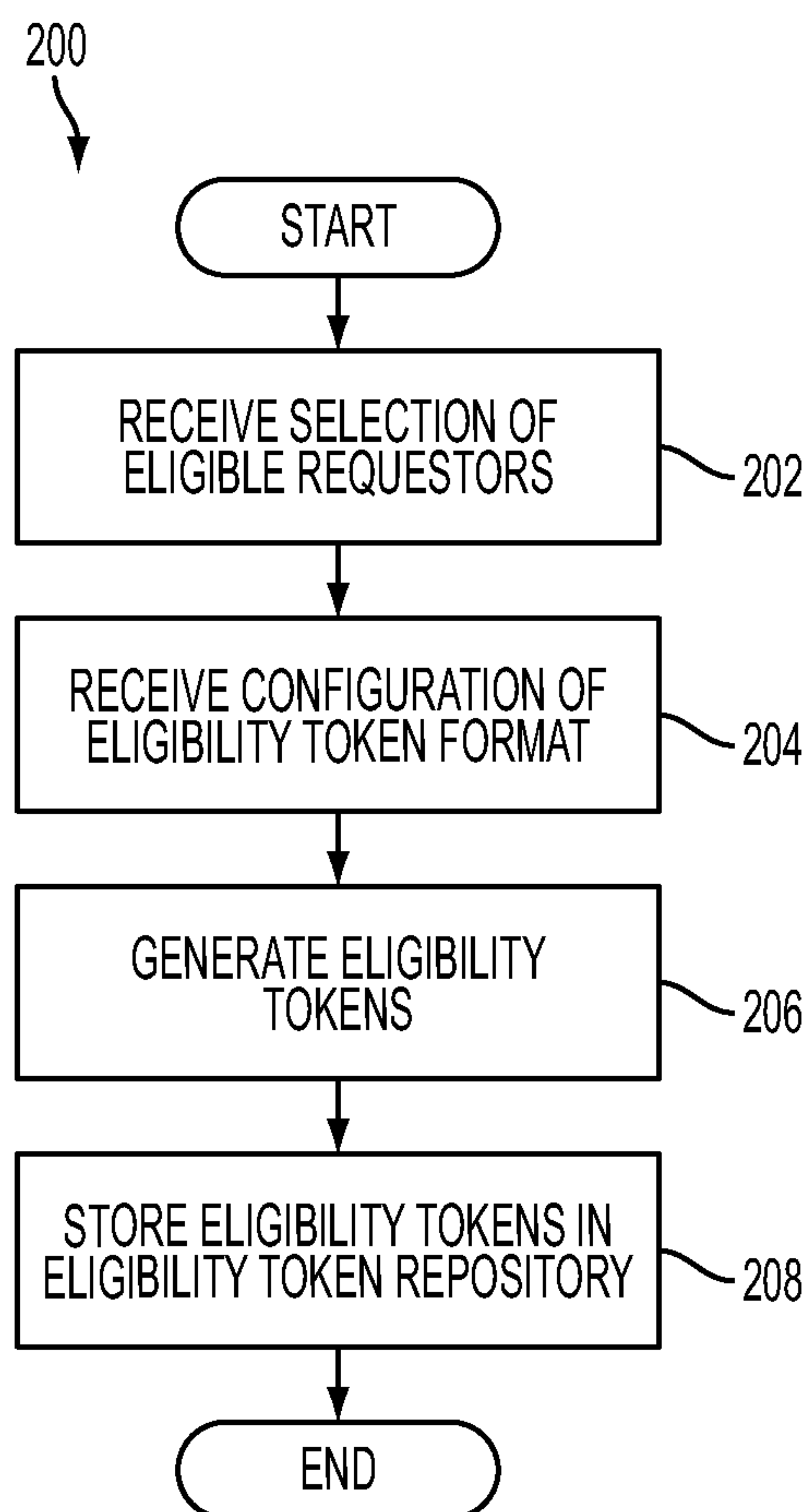


FIG. 2

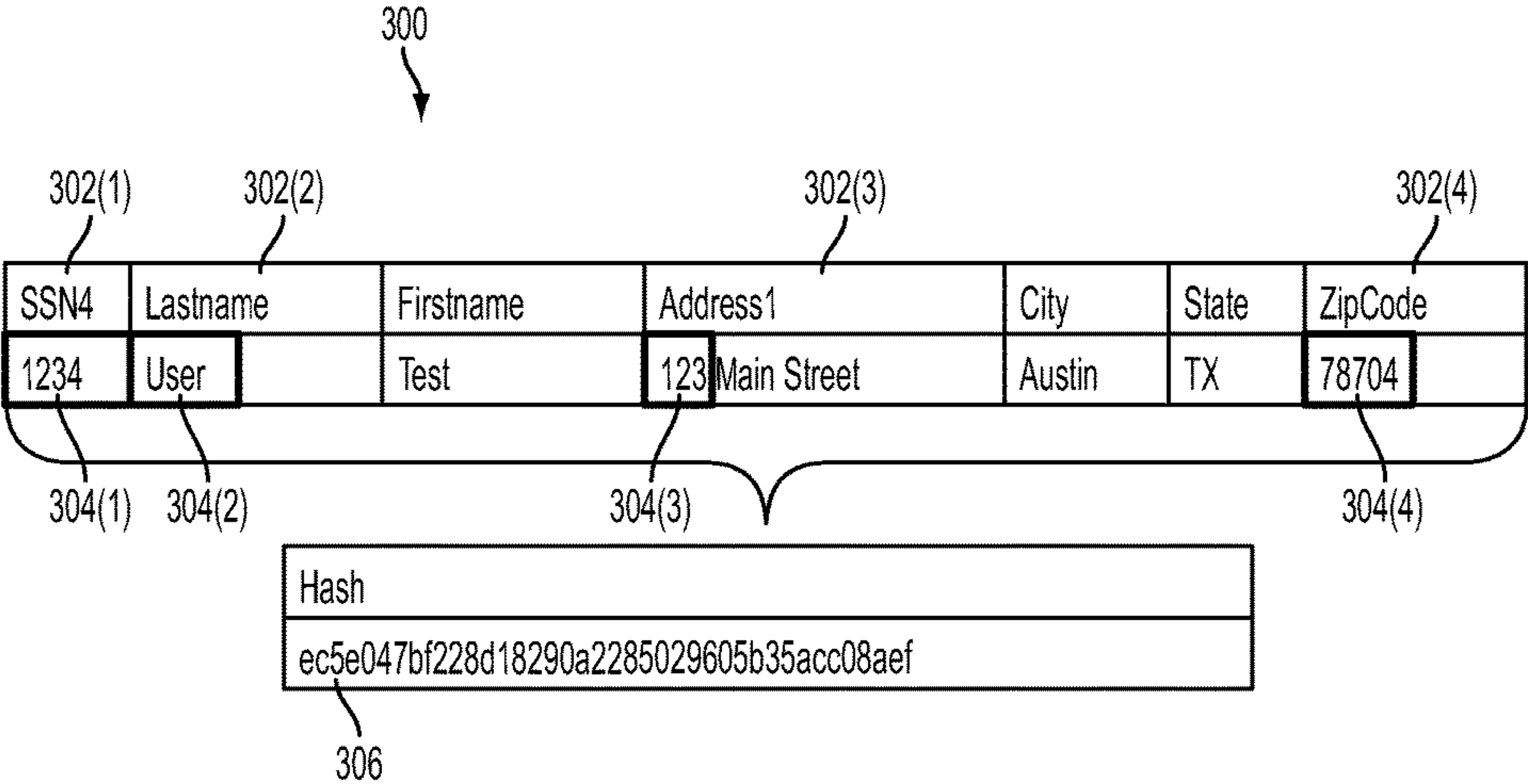


FIG. 3

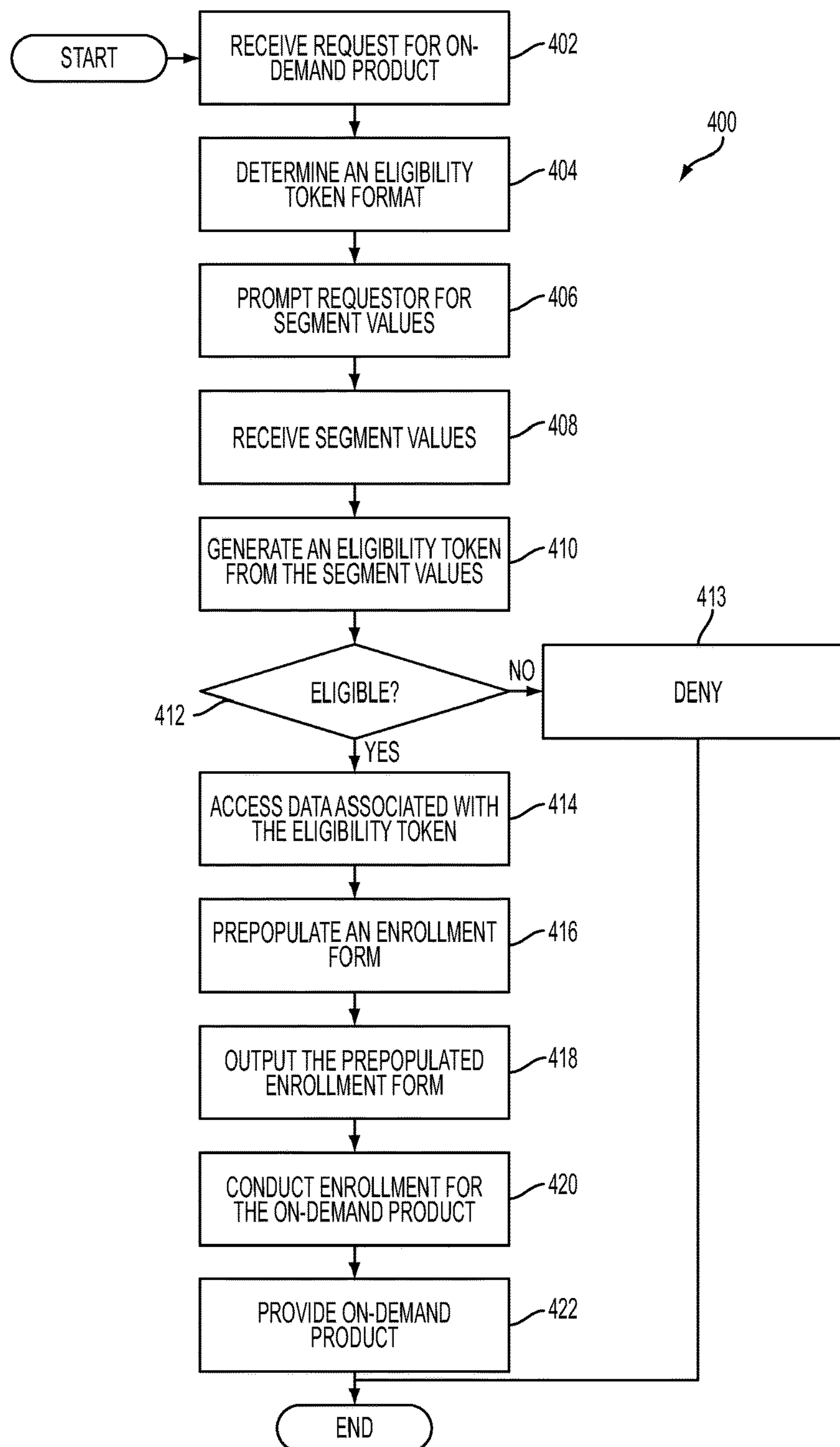


FIG. 4

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SYSTEMS, METHODS AND COMPUTER-PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This patent application claims priority from U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/984,351. U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/984,351 is hereby incorporated by reference.

BACKGROUND

Technical Field

The present disclosure relates generally to computer processing and more particularly, but not by way of limitation, to eligibility verification systems and methods for on-demand products.

History of Related Art

Numerous computer systems exist that provide on-demand products to consumers. For purposes of this patent application, an on-demand product is a product that is requested by a requestor such as a consumer and is intended by a provider to be delivered in real-time or in near real-time. On-demand products are generally requested electronically over a communications network such as, for example, public or private intranets, a public switched telephone network (PSTN), a cellular network, the Internet, or the like. Examples of on-demand products include content such as, for example, text, graphics, photos, video, audio, code, software applications, documents, access to cloud applications, and the like. On-demand products can also include content streaming, for example, of video, audio, and the like. By way of further example, on-demand products may include services such as, for example, identity-monitoring services.

In general, on-demand products are not, inter alia, physically shipped or delivered. Rather, on-demand products are typically delivered electronically over a communications network or by initiating a requested service. Oftentimes, however, it can be difficult to provide and determine eligibility for on-demand products efficiently and securely.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In one embodiment, a method includes receiving, from a requestor, a request for an on-demand product. The method further includes determining an eligibility token format applicable to the request, wherein the eligibility token format comprises a plurality of partial segments of identifying information. The method also includes prompting the requestor to provide a plurality of partial-segment values corresponding to the plurality of partial segments. In addition, the method includes receiving the plurality of partial-segment values in response to the prompting. Moreover, the method includes generating an eligibility token from the plurality of partial-segment values. The method also includes determining the requestor's eligibility for the on-demand product based, at least in part, on a lookup of the eligibility token in an eligibility token repository. The eligibility token repository includes a plurality of eligibility tokens of the eligibility token format.

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In one embodiment, a system includes at least one processor. The at least one processor is operable to perform a method. The method further includes determining an eligibility token format applicable to the request, wherein the eligibility token format comprises a plurality of partial segments of identifying information. The method also includes prompting the requestor to provide a plurality of partial-segment values corresponding to the plurality of partial segments. In addition, the method includes receiving the plurality of partial-segment values in response to the prompting. Moreover, the method includes generating an eligibility token from the plurality of partial-segment values. The method also includes determining the requestor's eligibility for the on-demand product based, at least in part, on a lookup of the eligibility token in an eligibility token repository. The eligibility token repository includes a plurality of eligibility tokens of the eligibility token format.

In one embodiment, a computer-program product includes a non-transitory computer-usable medium having computer-readable program code embodied therein. The computer-readable program code adapted to be executed to implement a method. The method further includes determining an eligibility token format applicable to the request, wherein the eligibility token format comprises a plurality of partial segments of identifying information. The method also includes prompting the requestor to provide a plurality of partial-segment values corresponding to the plurality of partial segments. In addition, the method includes receiving the plurality of partial-segment values in response to the prompting. Moreover, the method includes generating an eligibility token from the plurality of partial-segment values. The method also includes determining the requestor's eligibility for the on-demand product based, at least in part, on a lookup of the eligibility token in an eligibility token repository. The eligibility token repository includes a plurality of eligibility tokens of the eligibility token format.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

A more complete understanding of the method and apparatus of the present disclosure may be obtained by reference to the following Detailed Description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying Drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 illustrates an example of a system that can be used to dynamically determine eligibility for an on-demand product.

FIG. 2 illustrates an example of a process for establishing an eligibility token repository.

FIG. 3 illustrates an example of eligibility token generation.

FIG. 4 illustrates an example of a process for determining requestor eligibility for an on-demand product.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In various embodiments, on-demand products can be provided by a computer system over a network. For purposes of this patent application, providing or delivering an on-demand product refers to automated actions by a computer system to fulfill a request for the on-demand product. For example, for various types of on-demand products, providing or delivering the on-demand products can include transmitting, streaming, or initializing the on-demand product. For various types of on-demand products, providing or delivering the on-demand products can also include, for example, making the on-demand products accessible to consumers for transmission or streaming thereto.

One example of an on-demand product is an on-demand identity product. An on-demand identity product, as used herein, is an on-demand product as defined above that may be used to facilitate discovery or prevention of identity theft. Identity theft generally involves a use of personally identifying information (PII) that is not authorized by an owner of the PII and can include, for example, an unauthorized change to PII or an unauthorized use of PII to access resources or to obtain credit or other benefits. PII, as used herein, refers to information that can be used to uniquely identify, contact, or locate an individual person or can be used with other sources to uniquely identify, contact, or locate an individual person. PII may include, but is not limited to, social security numbers (SSNs), bank or credit card account numbers, passwords, birth dates, and addresses.

Identity products can include, for example, credit products. For purposes of this patent application, a credit product is an on-demand identity product as defined above that pertains to receiving, acquiring, reporting on, monitoring, or otherwise acting upon information related to consumer credit files. On-demand identity products that are not credit products may be referenced herein as non-credit products. Non-credit products can include monitoring and/or reporting services relating, for example, to exchanges of PII over the Internet, aliases associated with social-security numbers, sex-offender registries, payday loans, changes of address, and the like.

Oftentimes, a third party, or sponsor, may want to offer an on-demand product to a selected group of beneficiaries such as, for example, all or a subset of its customers. In various cases, the sponsor may partially or fully subsidize the on-demand product. The sponsored offer may be a reward to certain customers, a marketing promotion, a response to an unfavorable customer experience, combinations of same, and/or the like. In a more specific example, a retail outlet may be subject to a data breach that potentially exposes vast amounts of sensitive data relating to its customers. The sensitive data can include any data not intended for public dissemination such as, for example, data considered classified, confidential, personal, and/or the like. In such a case, the retail outlet may desire to provide an on-demand identity product, such as identity or credit monitoring, to a set of affected customers.

Various technical problems can arise when implementing sponsored offers for on-demand products. As an example, a provider of the on-demand product, who is often completely distinct from the sponsor, generally needs data or information sufficient to identify who is eligible. Although the sponsor may maintain data sufficient to identify a set of eligible beneficiaries, the provider typically does not.

One way to address the above-described problem is for either the sponsor or the provider to issue a code (e.g., a personal identification number) to each beneficiary. The codes can be shared between the provider and the sponsor. The beneficiaries can then enter the codes via a website associated with the provider. In certain embodiments, a disadvantage of this approach is that it does not scale well. For example, if there are millions of potential beneficiaries, as may be the case in the data breach example described above, millions of codes generally need to be generated and distributed. Sometimes, such codes must be distributed by mail due to limited contact information available to the sponsor, which can be expensive in time and money. Electronic distribution (e.g., email) can also be a substantial burden when significant numbers of beneficiaries are involved.

When there are a significant number of beneficiaries, another way to address the above-described problem is to omit eligibility verification. For instance, continuing the above example of the retail outlet that is subject to the data breach, the retail outlet can choose to make credit or identity monitoring available to the public at large. While this approach can remove any need to distribute codes, it also typically results in a much greater expense to the sponsor as a result of a potentially much greater class of beneficiaries than is necessary.

The present disclosure describes examples of determining eligibility for on-demand products using eligibility tokens. In certain embodiments, when a sponsor desires to offer an on-demand product to a group of beneficiaries, an eligibility token format can be configured based on information available to the sponsor about the group of beneficiaries. In various cases, the eligibility token format can define a composition of identifying information such as, for example, PII, that uniquely identifies beneficiaries.

Advantageously, in certain embodiments, the eligibility token format can include a plurality of partial segments of identifying information such as, for example, a last four digits of a SSN, a first three digits of an address field, etc. In various embodiments, the eligibility token format can be used as a basis to dynamically generate eligibility tokens for requestors of on-demand products. In certain embodiments, the eligibility tokens can be used to automatically determine whether the requestors are eligible beneficiaries of a sponsored offer for the on-demand product.

FIG. 1 illustrates an example of a system **100** that can be used to dynamically determine eligibility for an on-demand product. The system **100** includes a product-provision system **110**, one or more external systems **116**, and one or more client-computing devices **120**. The product-provision system **110** is operable to communicate with the one or more external systems **116** and the one or more client-computing devices **120** over a network **118**.

The product-provision system **110** includes a software application **114** operable to execute on computer resources **128**. In particular embodiments, the product-provision system **110** may perform one or more steps or blocks of one or more methods described or illustrated herein. In particular embodiments, one or more computer systems may provide functionality described or illustrated herein. In particular embodiments, encoded software running on one or more computer systems may perform one or more steps or blocks of one or more methods described or illustrated herein or provide functionality described or illustrated herein.

The components of the product-provision system **110** may comprise any suitable physical form, configuration, number, type and/or layout. As an example, and not by way of limitation, the product-provision system **110** may comprise an embedded computer system, a system-on-chip (SOC), a single-board computer system (SBC) (such as, for example, a computer-on-module (COM) or system-on-module (SOM)), a desktop computer system, a laptop or notebook computer system, an interactive kiosk, a mainframe, a mesh of computer systems, a mobile telephone, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a wearable or body-borne computer, a server, or a combination of two or more of these. Where appropriate, the product-provision system **110** may include one or more computer systems; be unitary or distributed; span multiple locations; span multiple machines; or reside in a cloud, which may include one or more cloud components in one or more networks.

In the depicted embodiment, the product-provision system **110** includes a processor **102**, memory **104**, storage **108**,

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interface 106, and bus 136. Although a particular product-provision system is depicted having a particular number of particular components in a particular arrangement, this disclosure contemplates any suitable product-provision system having any suitable number of any suitable components in any suitable arrangement.

Processor 102 may be a microprocessor, controller, or any other suitable computing device, resource, or combination of hardware, software and/or encoded logic operable to execute, either alone or in conjunction with other components, (e.g., memory 104), the software application 114. Such functionality may include providing various features discussed herein. In particular embodiments, processor 102 may include hardware for executing instructions, such as those making up the software application 114. As an example and not by way of limitation, to execute instructions, processor 102 may retrieve (or fetch) instructions from an internal register, an internal cache, memory 104, or storage 108; decode and execute them; and then write one or more results to an internal register, an internal cache, memory 104, or storage 108.

In particular embodiments, processor 102 may include one or more internal caches for data, instructions, or addresses. This disclosure contemplates processor 102 including any suitable number of any suitable internal caches, where appropriate. As an example and not by way of limitation, processor 102 may include one or more instruction caches, one or more data caches, and one or more translation lookaside buffers (TLBs). Instructions in the instruction caches may be copies of instructions in memory 104 or storage 108 and the instruction caches may speed up retrieval of those instructions by processor 102. Data in the data caches may be copies of data in memory 104 or storage 108 for instructions executing at processor 102 to operate on; the results of previous instructions executed at processor 102 for access by subsequent instructions executing at processor 102, or for writing to memory 104, or storage 108; or other suitable data. The data caches may speed up read or write operations by processor 102. The TLBs may speed up virtual-address translations for processor 102. In particular embodiments, processor 102 may include one or more internal registers for data, instructions, or addresses. Depending on the embodiment, processor 102 may include any suitable number of any suitable internal registers, where appropriate. Where appropriate, processor 102 may include one or more arithmetic logic units (ALUs); be a multi-core processor; include one or more processors 102; or any other suitable processor.

Memory 104 may be any form of volatile or non-volatile memory including, without limitation, magnetic media, optical media, random access memory (RAM), read-only memory (ROM), flash memory, removable media, or any other suitable local or remote memory component or components. In particular embodiments, memory 104 may include random access memory (RAM). This RAM may be volatile memory, where appropriate. Where appropriate, this RAM may be dynamic RAM (DRAM) or static RAM (SRAM). Moreover, where appropriate, this RAM may be single-ported or multi-ported RAM, or any other suitable type of RAM or memory. Memory 104 may include one or more memories 104, where appropriate. Memory 104 may store any suitable data or information utilized by the product-provision system 110, including software embedded in a computer readable medium, and/or encoded logic incorporated in hardware or otherwise stored (e.g., firmware). In particular embodiments, memory 104 may include main memory for storing instructions for processor 102 to execute

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or data for processor 102 to operate on. In particular embodiments, one or more memory management units (MMUs) may reside between processor 102 and memory 104 and facilitate accesses to memory 104 requested by processor 102.

As an example and not by way of limitation, the product-provision system 110 may load instructions from storage 108 or another source (such as, for example, another computer system) to memory 104. Processor 102 may then load the instructions from memory 104 to an internal register or internal cache. To execute the instructions, processor 102 may retrieve the instructions from the internal register or internal cache and decode them. During or after execution of the instructions, processor 102 may write one or more results (which may be intermediate or final results) to the internal register or internal cache. Processor 102 may then write one or more of those results to memory 104. In particular embodiments, processor 102 may execute only instructions in one or more internal registers or internal caches or in memory 104 (as opposed to storage 108 or elsewhere) and may operate only on data in one or more internal registers or internal caches or in memory 104 (as opposed to storage 108 or elsewhere).

In particular embodiments, storage 108 may include mass storage for data or instructions. As an example and not by way of limitation, storage 108 may include a hard disk drive (HDD), a floppy disk drive, flash memory, an optical disc, a magneto-optical disc, magnetic tape, or a Universal Serial Bus (USB) drive or a combination of two or more of these. Storage 108 may include removable or non-removable (or fixed) media, where appropriate. Storage 108 may be internal or external to the product-provision system 110, where appropriate. In particular embodiments, storage 108 may be non-volatile, solid-state memory. In particular embodiments, storage 108 may include read-only memory (ROM). Where appropriate, this ROM may be mask-programmed ROM, programmable ROM (PROM), erasable PROM (EPROM), electrically erasable PROM (EEPROM), electrically alterable ROM (EAROM), or flash memory or a combination of two or more of these. Storage 108 may take any suitable physical form and may comprise any suitable number or type of storage. Storage 108 may include one or more storage control units facilitating communication between processor 102 and storage 108, where appropriate.

In particular embodiments, interface 106 may include hardware, encoded software, or both providing one or more interfaces for communication (such as, for example, packet-based communication) among any networks, any network devices, and/or any other computer systems. As an example and not by way of limitation, communication interface 106 may include a network interface controller (NIC) or network adapter for communicating with an Ethernet or other wire-based network and/or a wireless NIC (WNIC) or wireless adapter for communicating with a wireless network.

Depending on the embodiment, interface 106 may be any type of interface suitable for any type of network for which product-provision system 110 is used. As an example and not by way of limitation, product-provision system 110 can include (or communicate with) an ad-hoc network, a personal area network (PAN), a local area network (LAN), a wide area network (WAN), a metropolitan area network (MAN), or one or more portions of the Internet or a combination of two or more of these. One or more portions of one or more of these networks may be wired or wireless. As an example, product-provision system 110 can include (or communicate with) a wireless PAN (WPAN) (such as, for example, a BLUETOOTH WPAN), a WI-FI network, a

WI-MAX network, an LTE network, an LTE-A network, a cellular telephone network (such as, for example, a Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) network), or any other suitable wireless network or a combination of two or more of these. The product-provision system **110** may include any suitable interface **106** for any one or more of these networks, where appropriate.

In some embodiments, interface **106** may include one or more interfaces for one or more I/O devices. One or more of these I/O devices may enable communication between a person and the product-provision system **110**. As an example and not by way of limitation, an I/O device may include a keyboard, keypad, microphone, monitor, mouse, printer, scanner, speaker, still camera, stylus, tablet, touchscreen, trackball, video camera, another suitable I/O device or a combination of two or more of these. An I/O device may include one or more sensors. Particular embodiments may include any suitable type and/or number of I/O devices and any suitable type and/or number of interfaces **106** for them. Where appropriate, interface **106** may include one or more drivers enabling processor **102** to drive one or more of these I/O devices. Interface **106** may include one or more interfaces **106**, where appropriate.

Bus **136** may include any combination of hardware, software embedded in a computer readable medium, and/or encoded logic incorporated in hardware or otherwise stored (e.g., firmware) to couple components of the product-provision system **110** to each other. As an example and not by way of limitation, bus **136** may include an Accelerated Graphics Port (AGP) or other graphics bus, an Enhanced Industry Standard Architecture (EISA) bus, a front-side bus (FSB), a HYPERTRANSPORT (HT) interconnect, an Industry Standard Architecture (ISA) bus, an INFINIBAND interconnect, a low-pin-count (LPC) bus, a memory bus, a Micro Channel Architecture (MCA) bus, a Peripheral Component Interconnect (PCI) bus, a PCI-Express (PCI-X) bus, a serial advanced technology attachment (SATA) bus, a Video Electronics Standards Association local (VLB) bus, or any other suitable bus or a combination of two or more of these. Bus **136** may include any number, type, and/or configuration of buses **136**, where appropriate. In particular embodiments, one or more buses **136** (which may each include an address bus and a data bus) may couple processor **102** to memory **104**. Bus **136** may include one or more memory buses.

Herein, reference to a computer-readable storage medium encompasses one or more tangible computer-readable storage media possessing structures. As an example and not by way of limitation, a computer-readable storage medium may include a semiconductor-based or other integrated circuit (IC) (such as, for example, a field-programmable gate array (FPGA) or an application-specific IC (ASIC)), a hard disk, an HDD, a hybrid hard drive (HHD), an optical disc, an optical disc drive (ODD), a magneto-optical disc, a magneto-optical drive, a floppy disk, a floppy disk drive (FDD), magnetic tape, a holographic storage medium, a solid-state drive (SSD), a RAM-drive, a SECURE DIGITAL card, a SECURE DIGITAL drive, a flash memory card, a flash memory drive, or any other suitable tangible computer-readable storage medium or a combination of two or more of these, where appropriate.

Particular embodiments may include one or more computer-readable storage media implementing any suitable storage. In particular embodiments, a computer-readable storage medium implements one or more portions of processor **102** (such as, for example, one or more internal registers or caches), one or more portions of memory **104**, one or more portions of storage **108**, or a combination of

these, where appropriate. In particular embodiments, a computer-readable storage medium implements RAM or ROM. In particular embodiments, a computer-readable storage medium implements volatile or persistent memory. In particular embodiments, one or more computer-readable storage media embody encoded software.

Herein, reference to encoded software may encompass one or more applications, bytecode, one or more computer programs, one or more executables, one or more instructions, logic, machine code, one or more scripts, or source code, and vice versa, where appropriate, that have been stored or encoded in a computer-readable storage medium. In particular embodiments, encoded software includes one or more application programming interfaces (APIs) stored or encoded in a computer-readable storage medium. Particular embodiments may use any suitable encoded software written or otherwise expressed in any suitable programming language or combination of programming languages stored or encoded in any suitable type or number of computer-readable storage media. In particular embodiments, encoded software may be expressed as source code or object code. In particular embodiments, encoded software is expressed in a higher-level programming language, such as, for example, C, Perl, or a suitable extension thereof. In particular embodiments, encoded software is expressed in a lower-level programming language, such as assembly language (or machine code). In particular embodiments, encoded software is expressed in JAVA. In particular embodiments, encoded software is expressed in Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML), Extensible Markup Language (XML), or other suitable markup language.

In a typical embodiment, the product-provision system **110** is operable to provide on-demand products to eligible requestors of the on-demand products. The functionality of the product-provision system **110** can be facilitated by the software application **114**. In certain embodiments, the software application **114** is operable to execute on the product-provision system **110** in the fashion described above. The software application **114** can include, for example, a fulfillment module **114(1)** and an eligibility module **114(2)**.

In general, the fulfillment module **114(1)** can logically encapsulate software that is operable to generate, acquire, and/or provide the on-demand products to requestors thereof. The on-demand products provisioned via the fulfillment module **114(1)** may be selected from a number of categories such as, for example, text, graphics, photos, video, audio, code, software applications, documents, access to cloud applications, and the like. The on-demand products can also include content streaming, for example, of video, audio, and the like. By way of further example, on-demand products may include services such as, for example, monitoring services. Other examples of on-demand products will be apparent to one of ordinary skill in the art after reviewing the inventive principles contained herein.

The eligibility module **114(2)** logically encapsulates software that determines eligibility for the on-demand products. The eligibility module **114(2)** can maintain and access an eligibility token repository **112**. In certain embodiments, the eligibility token repository **112** can include eligibility tokens that conform to a configurable eligibility token format. The eligibility token format can define a composition of segments of identifying information deemed to identify, and in some cases uniquely identify, eligible requestors of a particular on-demand product. In an example, the eligibility token format can include PII such as SSNs, bank or credit card account numbers, birth dates, addresses, combinations of same, and/or the like. In another example, the eligibility

token can include business identifying information such as employer identification numbers, business addresses, combinations of same, and/or the like.

Advantageously, in certain embodiments, the eligibility token format can include a plurality partial segments, or portions, of identifying information. In an example, a particular eligibility token format could include portions, or substrings, of PII such as SSNs (e.g., last four digits), bank or credit card account numbers (e.g., first three digits), birth dates (e.g., a month portion of a birth date), addresses (e.g., a street-number portion of a home address), combinations of same, and/or the like. A particular eligibility token format can also include a combination of full and partial segments of identifying information.

In various cases, the eligibility token repository **112** can relate to a particular on-demand product, a particular sponsored offer for an on-demand product, combinations of same, and/or the like. In some embodiments, each eligibility token in the eligibility token repository **112** can include segment values corresponding to the segments defined by the eligibility token format. In certain embodiments, the product-provision system **110** can include more than one of the eligibility token repository **112**. For example, the product-provision system **110** could maintain an eligibility token repository **112** for each sponsored offer it is configured to handle and/or for each on-demand product it is operable to provide. The eligibility token format implemented by the eligibility token repository **112** can be configured according to information available, for example, to a particular sponsor of an offer for a particular on-demand product.

As illustrated, the eligibility token repository **112** can be stored in the storage **108**. The eligibility token repository **112** may be maintained, for example, in a database, flat file, and/or the like. In some cases, the eligibility token repository **112** can be stored or maintained in a data structure such as a hash table.

In a hash table implementation, the eligibility token repository **112** may map a plurality of keys to a plurality of values via a hash function. In an example, the keys can be the eligibility tokens. According to this example, each eligibility token can be computed as a hash of a set of segment values defined by the eligibility token format. Continuing this example, the values can be information about eligible requestors of the on-demand product such as, for example, information sufficient to retrieve additional information about the eligible requestor (e.g. a record ID). For example, in some embodiments, the values can be used to retrieve information from an enrollment repository **122**. The enrollment repository **122** can include searchable data about eligible requestors. In certain embodiments, the enrollment repository **122** includes pre-existing information about the eligible requestors that is maintained by the sponsor in the ordinary course of business and which has been shared with the product-provision system **110**.

Although the fulfillment module **114(1)** and the eligibility module **114(2)** are depicted as two separate software components, in various other embodiments, such software components are organized differently. For example, the fulfillment module **114(1)** and the eligibility module **114(2)** could be merged into a single software component, each be further divided into other software components, or have their collective functionality allocated differently among any number of software components. In addition, although the software application **114** is illustrated singly for illustrative purposes, it should be appreciated that any number of software applications may be utilized to achieve similar functionality.

The one or more client-computing devices **120** are computer systems used by requestors, for example, to request and/or receive the on-demand products. The one or more client-computing devices **120** can include, for example, desktop computers, laptop computers, tablet computers, smart phones, wearable or body-borne computers, and/or the like. The one or more external systems **116** are representative of computer systems from which the product-provision system **110** is operable to interact. For example, in various embodiments, the product-provision system may acquire particular on-demand products from the one or more external systems **116** or obtain information or data necessary to generate or determine eligibility for particular on-demand products. For example, the one or more external systems **116** may provide the information or data via an application programming interface (API).

In operation, the product-provision system **110** interacts with the one or more client-computing devices **120** to receive requests for on-demand products. Upon receipt of a request for an on-demand product, the product-provision system **110** can use the eligibility module **114(2)** to determine a requestor's eligibility for the on-demand product. If the requestor is eligible for the on-demand product, the fulfillment module **114(1)** can provide the requested on-demand product. Examples will be described with respect to FIGS. 3-4.

Each instance of a system such as, for example, the product-provision system **110** and the one or more external systems **116**, may be representative of any combination of computing equipment including, for example, any number of physical or virtual server computers and any number and organization of databases. In addition, it should be appreciated that, in various embodiments, the network **118** can be viewed as an abstraction of multiple distinct networks via which the product-provision system **110** is operable to communicate. For example, the network **118** can include one or multiple communications networks such as, for example, public or private intranets, a public switched telephone network (PSTN), a cellular network, the Internet, or the like.

FIG. 2 illustrates an example of a process **200** for establishing an eligibility token repository. For example, the process **200**, in whole or in part, can be implemented by one or more of the product-provision system **110**, the software application **114**, the fulfillment module **114(1)**, and/or the eligibility module **114(2)**. The process **200** can also be performed generally by the system **100**. Although any number of systems, in whole or in part, can implement the process **200**, to simplify discussion, the process **200** will be described in relation to specific systems or subsystems of the system **100**.

At block **202**, the eligibility module **114(2)** receives a selection of eligible requestors. In an example, the eligible requestors can be intended beneficiaries of a sponsored offer for an on-demand product. The requestors can be selected by a user or administrator associated with a sponsor of the sponsored offer, a user or administrator of the provider acting according to instructions from the sponsor, combinations of same, and/or the like. In an example, the eligible requestors can be selected via receipt of the enrollment repository **122**, receipt of information or data for storage in the enrollment repository, etc.

At block **204**, the eligibility module **114(2)** receives a configuration of an eligibility token format. In certain embodiments, the configuration can be a selection of full and/or partial segments of identifying information related to the eligible requestors. In various cases, the configuration can be received from an administrator or user associated

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with the provider and/or sponsor. In some embodiments, the configuration can identify a composition of columns of a database table in the enrollment repository **122**. An example will be described with respect to FIG. 2.

At block **206**, the eligibility module **114(2)** generates eligibility tokens for the eligible requestors according to the eligibility token format. In some embodiments, each eligibility token can be a sequential concatenation of segment values according to the eligibility token format. In other embodiments, each eligibility token can be hash of the segment values.

At block **208**, the eligibility module **114(2)** stores the eligibility tokens in the eligibility token repository **112**. In hash table implementations, the block **208** can include storing a key-value pair for each requestor such that the eligibility token is the key. In these implementations, each eligibility token can be mapped to information about a corresponding eligible requestor. The information can be, for example, a record identifier or other data sufficient to lookup the corresponding eligible requestor in the enrollment repository **122** and retrieve additional data.

FIG. 3 illustrates an example **300** of eligibility token generation. As illustrated, an example eligibility token format is shown to include a segment **302(1)**, a segment **302(2)**, a segment **302(3)**, and a segment **302(4)** (collectively, segments **302**). The segment **302(1)** and the segment **302(3)** are examples of partial segments of identifying information. In particular, the example **300** illustrates the segment **302(1)** as including the last four digits of a SSN and illustrates the segment **302(3)** as including a street-number portion of a home address. The segment **302(2)** and the segment **302(4)** are examples of full segments of identifying information.

The example **300** further shows segment values **304(1)**, **304(2)**, **304(3)**, and **304(4)** (collectively, segment values **304**). The segment values **304** correspond to the segments **302**. As illustrated, an eligibility token **306** can be determined by computing a hash of the segment values **304**.

FIG. 4 illustrates an example of a process **400** for determining requestor eligibility for an on-demand product. For example, the process **400**, in whole or in part, can be implemented by one or more of the product-provision system **110**, the software application **114**, the fulfillment module **114(1)**, and/or the eligibility module **114(2)**. The process **400** can also be performed generally by the system **100**. Although any number of systems, in whole or in part, can implement the process **400**, to simplify discussion, the process **400** will be described in relation to specific systems or subsystems of the system **100**.

At block **402**, the fulfillment module **114(1)** receives a request for an on-demand product. In various embodiments, the request can be received via a web interface of the product-provision system **110** that is accessed by the requestor. At block **404**, the eligibility module **114(2)** determines an eligibility token format applicable to the request. For example, based on the web interface or a web page accessed by the requestor, the eligibility module **114(2)** may be able to determine a desired on-demand product, an applicable sponsored offer for the desired on-demand product, and/or the like. Based on this and/or other information, the eligibility module **114(2)** may be able to identify the applicable eligibility token format.

At block **406**, the eligibility module **114(2)** prompts the requestor for segment values defined by the eligibility token format. For example, the eligibility module **114(2)** can serve a web page containing fields for each of the segment values. At block **408**, the eligibility module **114(2)** receives the segment values. At block **410**, the eligibility module **114(2)**

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generates an eligibility token from the segment values. For example, in some embodiments, the eligibility token can be a hash of the segment values.

At decision block **412**, the eligibility module **114(2)** determines whether the requestor is eligible for the on-demand product. In certain embodiments, the requestor's eligibility can be determined based on a lookup of the eligibility token in the eligibility repository **112**. In these embodiments, if the eligibility token is found in the eligibility token repository **112**, the requestor may be deemed eligible. Otherwise, if the eligibility token is not found in the eligibility token repository **112**, the requestor may be deemed ineligible. If it is determined at the decision block **412** that the requestor is not eligible for the on-demand product, the process **400** proceeds to block **413**, where the requestor is denied access. After block **413**, the process **400** ends. Otherwise, if the requestor is determined to be eligible for the on-demand product, the process **400** proceeds to block **414**.

At block **414**, the eligibility module **114(2)** accesses data associated with the eligibility token. For example, in embodiments in which a hash table is utilized, the eligibility token can be used as a key to retrieve a value. In these embodiments, the value can be used to access the data from the enrollment repository **122** or another data source. The accessed data can include, for example, information used by the product-provision system **110** to enroll requestors for the on-demand product.

At block **416**, the fulfillment module **114(1)** prepopulates an enrollment form with at least a portion of the accessed data. For example, the fulfillment module **114(1)** can select data from the enrollment repository **122** that is useful or required during enrollment for the on-demand product. It should be appreciated that a single enrollment form is described only for simplicity of explanation. In various cases, two or more enrollment forms used in a series or sequence may be prepopulated and used for the enrollment.

At block **418**, the fulfillment module **114(1)** outputs the enrollment form to the requestor. At block **420**, the fulfillment module **114(1)** conducts enrollment for the on-demand product. In an example, the enrollment can include any of the enrollment or registration functionality described in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/093,663 or U.S. Pat. No. 8,359,278. U.S. patent application Ser. No. 13/093,663 and U.S. Pat. No. 8,359,278 are hereby incorporated by reference. At block **422**, the fulfillment module **114(1)** provides the on-demand product to the requestor. After block **422**, the process **400** ends.

Any suitable combination of various embodiments, or the features thereof, is contemplated. For example, any of the systems or devices disclosed herein can include features of other embodiments. As another example, any blocks or steps disclosed in a process described herein may be used in other processes described herein. Thus, a block of one of the processes described with respect to FIGS. 2-4 may be used in any of the processes described herein.

Depending on the embodiment, certain acts, events, or functions of any of the algorithms described herein can be performed in a different sequence, can be added, merged, or left out altogether (e.g., not all described acts or events are necessary for the practice of the algorithms). Moreover, in certain embodiments, acts or events can be performed concurrently, e.g., through multi-threaded processing, interrupt processing, or multiple processors or processor cores or on other parallel architectures, rather than sequentially. Although certain computer-implemented tasks are described

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as being performed by a particular entity, other embodiments are possible in which these tasks are performed by a different entity.

Conditional language used herein, such as, among others, “can,” “might,” “may,” “e.g.,” and the like, unless specifically stated otherwise, or otherwise understood within the context as used, is generally intended to convey that certain embodiments include, while other embodiments do not include, certain features, elements and/or states. Thus, such conditional language is not generally intended to imply that features, elements and/or states are in any way required for one or more embodiments or that one or more embodiments necessarily include logic for deciding, with or without author input or prompting, whether these features, elements and/or states are included or are to be performed in any particular embodiment.

While the above detailed description has shown, described, and pointed out novel features as applied to various embodiments, it will be understood that various omissions, substitutions, and changes in the form and details of the devices or algorithms illustrated can be made without departing from the spirit of the disclosure. As will be recognized, the processes described herein can be embodied within a form that does not provide all of the features and benefits set forth herein, as some features can be used or practiced separately from others. The scope of protection is defined by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description. All changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claims are to be embraced within their scope.

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method of determining eligibility for accessing an on-demand product, the computer-implemented method comprising:

receiving, from a first third party database, first user data for a first plurality of users, wherein the first user data comprises a first set of one or more data fields of identifying information for each user of the first plurality of users;

determining, via a first hardware processor device, a first format for generating a first eligibility token that includes:

a first selection format for identifying a first selection of a first plurality of segments of identifying information based at least in part on the first set of one or more data fields available in the received first user data; and

a first concatenation format for concatenating the first plurality of segments of identifying information into a first string of values;

generating, via the first hardware processor device, one or more first eligibility tokens for each of the first plurality of users based at least in part on the first format;

storing the generated one or more first eligibility tokens as key values in an eligibility token repository;

receiving, from a second third party database, second user data for a second plurality of users, wherein the second user data comprises a second set of one or more data fields of identifying information for each user of the second plurality of users, wherein the second set of one or more data fields includes at least one unique data field that is not included in first set of one or more data fields;

determining, via a second hardware processor device, and storing a second format for generating a second eligibility token that includes:

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a second selection format for identifying a second selection of a second plurality of segments of identifying information based at least in part on the second set of one or more data fields available in the received second user data and including the at least one unique data field; and

a second concatenation format for concatenating the second plurality of segments of identifying information into a second string of values;

generating, via the second hardware processor device, one or more second eligibility tokens for each of the second plurality of users based at least in part on the second format;

storing the generated one or more second eligibility tokens as key values in the eligibility token repository;

receiving, from a requestor device via a network interface, an electronic request for an on-demand product which comprises an electronic identifier for a product to be delivered electronically in real-time to the requestor device, wherein the requestor device is associated with a first user;

prompting the requestor device to provide encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

receiving, from the requestor device via a network interface, the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

determine whether to apply the first format or the second format based at least in part on the electronic request for the on-demand product;

generating, via a third hardware processor device, a user eligibility token based at least in part on the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user and one of the first format or the second format, wherein the user eligibility token is associated with a key in a key-value pair for the first user and is mapped to at least a portion of the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

performing lookup of the user eligibility token in the eligibility token repository to find a matching token; and

determining the first user's eligibility for accessing the on-demand product based at least in part on there being a matching eligibility token in the eligibility token repository for the user eligibility token.

2. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:

accessing data associated with the user eligibility token; prepopulating an enrollment form using at least a portion of the accessed data;

outputting the prepopulated enrollment form to the requestor device;

receiving enrollment authorization from the requestor device; and

responsive to the enrollment authorization, enrolling the first user for the on-demand product.

3. The computer-implemented method of claim 2, further comprising initiating provision of the on-demand product to the requestor device.

4. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining that the first user is not eligible for accessing the on-demand product based at least in part on there being no matching eligibility token in the eligibility token repository for the user eligibility token; and

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based at least in part on the determination that the first user is not eligible for the on-demand product, denying provision of the on-demand product to the requestor device.

5. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of segments of identifying information and the second plurality of segments of identifying information comprise pluralities of segments of personally identifying information (PII).

6. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of segments of identifying information and the second plurality of segments of identifying information comprise pluralities of segments of business identifying information.

7. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the first plurality of segments of identifying information and the second plurality of segments of identifying information comprise pluralities of substrings of the identifying information.

8. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the first format further comprises at least one complete segment of identifying information.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the first eligibility tokens comprises values generated by a hash function.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising: receiving, from the first third party database, indicators of on-demand products to be associated with the first plurality of users; and

receiving, from the second third party database, indicators of on-demand products to be associated with the second plurality of users.

11. A system for determining eligibility for accessing an on-demand product, the system comprising:

a first third party database;
a second third party database;
a requestor device associated with a first user;
a network interface; and

at least one processor, wherein the at least one processor is operable to perform a method comprising:

receiving, from the first third party database, first user data for a first plurality of users, wherein the first user data comprises a first set of one or more data fields of identifying information for each user of the first plurality of users;

determining, via a first hardware processor device, a first format for generating a first eligibility token that includes:

a first selection format for identifying a first selection of a first plurality of segments of identifying information based at least in part on the first set of one or more data fields available in the received first user data; and

a first concatenation format for concatenating the first plurality of segments of identifying information into a first string of values;

generating, via the first hardware processor device, one or more first eligibility tokens for each of the first plurality of users based at least in part on the first format;

storing the generated one or more first eligibility tokens as key values in an eligibility token repository;

receiving, from the second third party database, second user data for a second plurality of users, wherein the second user data comprises a second set of one or more data fields of identifying information for each user of the second plurality of users, wherein the second set of one or more data fields includes at least

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one unique data field that is not included in first set of one or more data fields;

determining, via a second hardware processor device, and storing a second format for generating a second eligibility token that includes:

a second selection format for identifying a second selection of a second plurality of segments of identifying information based at least in part on the second set of one or more data fields available in the received second user data and including the at least one unique data field; and

a second concatenation format for concatenating the second plurality of segments of identifying information into a second string of values;

generating, via the second hardware processor device, one or more second eligibility tokens for each of the second plurality of users based at least in part on the second format;

storing the generated one or more second eligibility tokens as key values in the eligibility token repository;

receiving, from the requestor device via a network interface, an electronic request for an on-demand product which comprises an electronic identifier for a product to be delivered electronically in real-time to the requestor device, wherein the requestor device is associated with a first user;

prompting the requestor device to provide encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

receiving, from the requestor device via a network interface, the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

determine whether to apply the first format or the second format based at least in part on the electronic request for the on-demand product;

generating, via a third hardware processor device, a user eligibility token based at least in part on the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user and one of the first format or the second format, wherein the user eligibility token is associated with a key in a key-value pair for the first user and is mapped to at least a portion of the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

performing lookup of the user eligibility token in the eligibility token repository to find a matching token; and

determining the first user's eligibility for accessing the on-demand product based at least in part on there being a matching eligibility token in the eligibility token repository for the user eligibility token.

12. The system of claim 11, wherein the at least one processor is further operable to perform:

accessing data associated with the user eligibility token; prepopulating an enrollment form using at least a portion of the accessed data;

outputting the prepopulated enrollment form to the requestor device;

receiving enrollment authorization from the requestor device; and

responsive to the enrollment authorization, enrolling the first user for the on-demand product.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the at least one processor is further operable to perform initiating provision of the on-demand product to the requestor device.

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14. The system of claim 11, wherein the at least one processor is further operable to perform:

determining that the first user is not eligible for accessing the on-demand product based at least in part on there being no matching eligibility token in the eligibility token repository for the user eligibility token; and based at least in part on the determination that the requestor is not eligible for the on-demand product, denying provision of the on-demand product to the requestor device.

15. The system of claim 11, wherein the first plurality of segments of identifying information and the second plurality of segments of identifying information comprise pluralities of segments of personally identifying information (PII).

16. The system of claim 11, wherein the first plurality of segments of identifying information and the second plurality of segments of identifying information comprise pluralities of segments of business identifying information.

17. The system of claim 11, wherein the first plurality of segments of identifying information comprises a plurality of substrings of the identifying information.

18. The system of claim 11, wherein the first plurality of segments of identifying information and the second plurality of segments of identifying information comprise pluralities of substrings of the identifying information.

19. A computer-program product comprising a non-transitory computer-usable medium having computer-readable program code embodied therein, the computer-readable program code adapted to be executed to implement a method comprising:

receiving, from a first third party database, first user data for a first plurality of users, wherein the first user data comprises a first set of one or more data fields of identifying information for each user of the first plurality of users;

determining, via a first hardware processor device, a first format for generating a first eligibility token that includes:

a first selection format for identifying a first selection of a first plurality of segments of identifying information based at least in part on the first set of one or more data fields available in the received first user data; and

a first concatenation format for concatenating the first plurality of segments of identifying information into a first string of values;

generating, via the first hardware processor device, one or more first eligibility tokens for each of the first plurality of users based at least in part on the first format;

storing the generated one or more first eligibility tokens as key values in an eligibility token repository;

receiving, from a second third party database, second user data for a second plurality of users, wherein the second user data comprises a second set of one or more data fields of identifying information for each user of the second plurality of users wherein the second set of one or more data fields includes at least one unique data field that is not included in first set of one or more data fields;

determining, via a second hardware processor device, and storing a second format for generating a second eligibility token that includes:

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a second selection format for identifying a second selection of a second plurality of segments of identifying information based at least in part on the second set of one or more data fields available in the received second user data and including the at least one unique data field; and

a second concatenation format for concatenating the second plurality of segments of identifying information into a second string of values;

generating, via the second hardware processor device, one or more second eligibility tokens for each of the second plurality of users based at least in part on the second format;

storing the generated one or more second eligibility tokens as key values in the eligibility token repository; receiving, from a requestor device via a network interface, an electronic request for an on-demand product which comprises an electronic identifier for a product to be delivered electronically in real-time to the requestor device, wherein the requestor device is associated with a first user;

prompting the requestor device to provide encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

receiving, from the requestor device via a network interface, the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

determine whether to apply the first format or the second format based at least in part on the electronic request for the on-demand product;

generating, via a third hardware processor device, a user eligibility token based at least in part on the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user and one of the first format or the second format, wherein the user eligibility token is associated with a key in a key-value pair for the first user and is mapped to at least a portion of the encrypted data packets comprising personal information associated with the first user;

performing lookup of the user eligibility token in the eligibility token repository to find a matching token; and

determining the first user's eligibility for accessing the on-demand product based at least in part on there being a matching eligibility token in the eligibility token repository for the user eligibility token.

20. The computer-program product of claim 19, wherein the computer-readable program code is further adapted to be executed to:

access data associated with the user eligibility token; prepopulate an enrollment form using at least a portion of the accessed data;

output the prepopulated enrollment form to the requestor device;

receive enrollment authorization from the requestor device; and

responsive to the enrollment authorization, enroll the first user for the on-demand product.

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